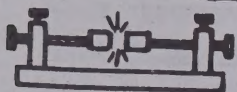
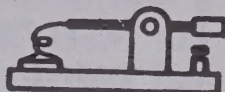


Spark-Gap Times

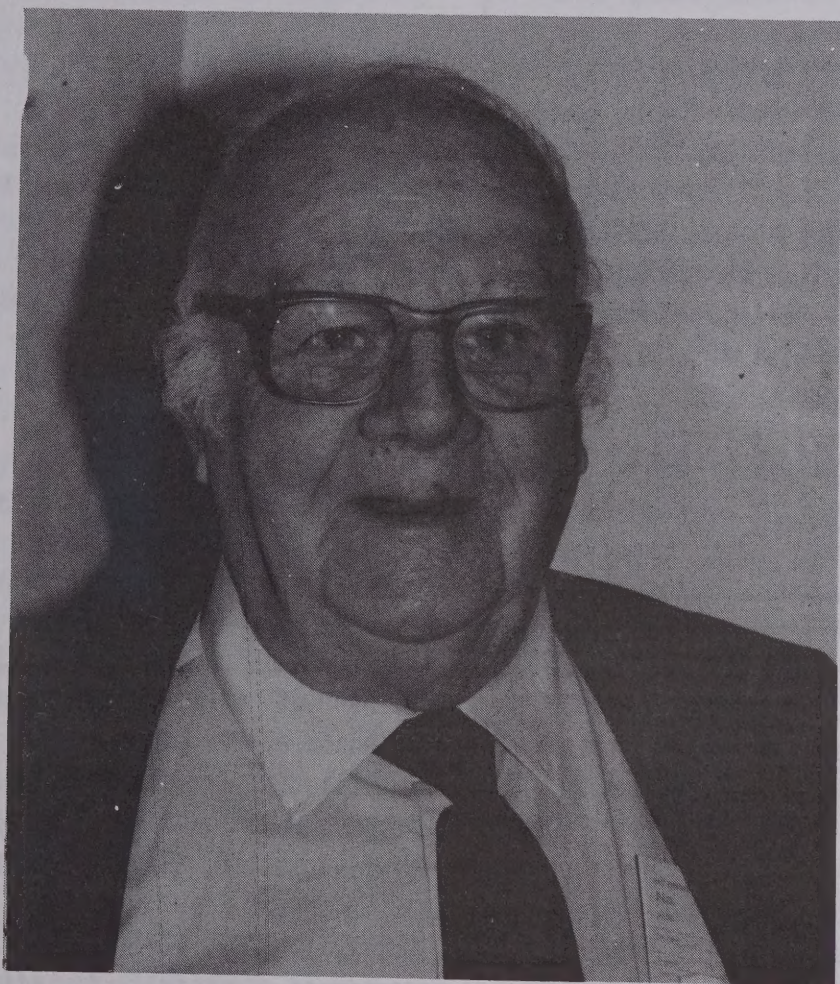


Published By
The Old Old Timers Club



MARCH-APRIL, 1989

VOLUME 26, No. 2



Our indefatigable, President Ted Heithecker, W5EJ

THE MAGAZINE OF THE WIRELESS PIONEERS

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Spark-Gap Times

Vol.26. MARCH - APRIL No.2

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The past two months have seen a great deal of work completed and finally we are pretty well on top of the job. New memberships are coming in regularly and membership renewals are doing real well. I am certain that there are still problems that have not been attacked - if we've left out anything please drop a post-card.

The OOTC computer database has been established and two back-up discs are stored in a safe place. The computer is located at Springtown, Texas - about 25 miles northwest of Fort Worth, in beautiful hill country. This is where nearly all of our work is carried out. We have been able to prepare the pages necessary for the printing of a new OOTC roster. This has been sorely needed, the last volume being printed in 1984. Uncle Gus Gironda, W2JE has the material and is working like a beaver to get it into print so that it might be sent out with the next issue of SGT. Let us hope that the errors are at a minimum. I would ask that you please send a postcard listing any errors noted, and corrections too, if you can. In that way we can get our database right up to snuff. A list of corrections reported will appear in a subsequent issue of SGT.

Many of you have sent a note listing your birthday. This is great and is appreciated - there are still a whole bunch who haven't reported so, use a postcard and list your birthday so that we can bring our information right up to snuff. With a full listing of birthdays, we can print a real page of greetings in each issue of SGT. You can help, please give use the word!

This has been a queer winter and here, to top it off, the first day of spring in Texas, we get a sleet storm!

73, Ted W5EJ

FOR YOUR INFORMATION -

All subscribers to Spark Gap imes will get a new roster free, non-subscribers if they desire a roster will have to send in \$5.00 to cover handling, postage and mailing. Extra copies are \$5.00

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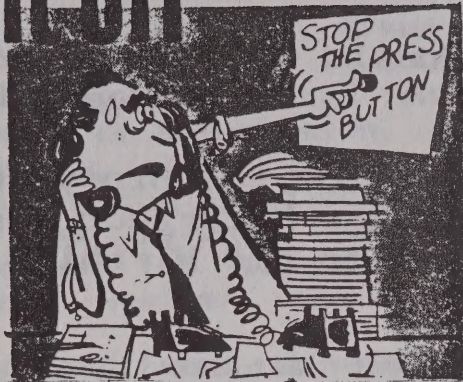
Kenneth D. Edwards, W6MCV

NEW MEMBERS

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Douglas B. Drage, G2BNI
Emerson R. Mehrling, W4NH
John C. Roberts, N2DSX

Joseph H. Poges, W1EED
Harold M. Clayton, W4EJY
Joshua J. Brehm, AE2L
LaVal W. Spencer, K7MD

right off



the
editor's
desk

IF YOU read our column in the Jan/Feb. SGT, you saw the "FLASH" regarding an ARRL Director who was about to present a motion to kill the Director's Recall By-Law at the annual ARRL Meeting.

We can now tell you that it was Edmond A. Metzger, W9PRN, Central Division Director. Happily, he lost his motion by a score of 11 against to 4 for. Great! That's one for the Membership!

Our prexy, Ted, has advised us that some of our members, whose eyesight is not what it was when they were young whipper-snappers, rightfully complained about the type size in the Jan/Feb issue of SGT.

It was we who decided on the smaller type to provide the membership with about 2 more pages of copy than is possible with the larger type while still holding to the 20 pages we must in order not to exceed 1-oz mailing weight. If we go over that, the postage will increase by almost 100% for the next ounce.

Apparently, We "fell on our face!" We regret that some members could not read SGT or, at best, read it only with great difficulty. We have made changes, as can readily be seen with this issue. If there are still valid complaints about the format, tell us, the Editor, and we'll try to do something about it.

Meanwhile, our President, together with others, is investigating postal fees, in an effort to discover how we can mail SGT less expensively. If and when there are results, you'll read it here, of course.

Aside to Joel F. Moss, W6BQR, a newcomer to OOTC. Please, Joel, send your telephone number to Mike Hexter, W9FKC, who would like to renew his old

(Pse QSY to page 18)

MacARTHUR to HIROHITO!

by

Col. Ronald G. Martin, W6ZF,
Napa, Cal.

Being the rest of the Story how
the Hams got the MacArthur mes-
sage through to ole Hirohito

READING the recent article by Jack Brown, W3HSY, "WTJ de JNP," brought back vivid memories. And it recalled the very important part in the surrender of Japan which we, at the 68th AACS Group, then in South Manila, played.

I was Director of Operations for the Group at the time. And the Signal Corps Station under Maj. Gen. Aiken, Chief Signal Officer on Gen. MacArthur's staff, had for several days attempted to contact Japan to send the Surrender Message to Hirohito. Why they had had so much difficulty was unknown to us at the time.

On the 15th of August, 1945, at about 1525Z, Gen. Aiken called us from GHQ and told us that his Signal Corps Station couldn't reach Japan or contact any station there. He asked if the 68th might help. My answer was, "Can do, General. We are a 'Can Do' outfit!" Gen. Aiken said he would send the message over to us immediately. Personally, believe me, he had already dispatched the message to us. But that has always been unconfirmed.

At about 1640Z the message arrived. We immediately taped it on the Wheatstone Perforator; and got ready to make a loop of the message for the Boehm Tape Head.

In the meantime, while we had been waiting for the message to arrive by runner, I had instructed Jules Wenglare, now W6YO, who was the NOIC of the transmitting station near our HQ, to tie all the 15 weather transmitters onto 15 different frequencies in the spectrum, so that when we keyed WXXU with the Boehm Head, all 15, different frequencies would carry the message at the same time.

We had known for weeks that the Japanese were copying our weather broadcasts; and that it was a cinch that we'd get the message through. I

purposely didn't tell Gen. Aiken of this "ace up our sleeve." How we did the job, was our business. Gen. Aiken was interested only in the action and accomplishment of the mission.

At exactly 1708Z on the 15th, the Boehm Head started rolling the taped message 'round and 'round, over and over again. We crossed our fingers. Surely, some of the Japanese intercept operators copying our weather, would copy the Surrender Message!

An hour and twenty minutes later, JQS called us on 13,705kHz, the designated frequency for them to work GHQ Signal Station WTA*. We quickly acknowledged the contact; and then called Gen. Aiken with the unclassified reply information. We also told him that station JUM would take over all communications with WTA from that hour on.

Gen. Aiken, at first notice, said, "Martin, you're joking. An answer back in an hour and half? Impossible!" But I reassured Gen. Aiken that the Surrender Message had been copied; and that we had a reply contact from Japan.

Gen. Aiken wanted to know how we had done it. Again, the way the 68th had done the job, was not revealed. "General," I said, "The old 68th AACS Group is an airways station; and we have ways and means for getting things done. Your interest is in 'Mission Accomplished.' And we have done that. How we did it is immaterial!" That seemed to satisfy him; for he closed with, "Wait until I tell Gen. MacArthur, the 68th did it!"

We ordered all the transmitters returned to their regular frequencies. We had been absolutely certain that the simultaneous CW broadcast on 15 different, weather frequencies which was being copied by the Japanese Weather Intercept operators, would do the job. And it had!

For our inegnuity, the 68th AACS Group received a nice citation. But to tell the truth, we really had not done anything out of the ordinary, in that day of communications.

* See the letter from W2DX in the "Letters to the Editor" column.

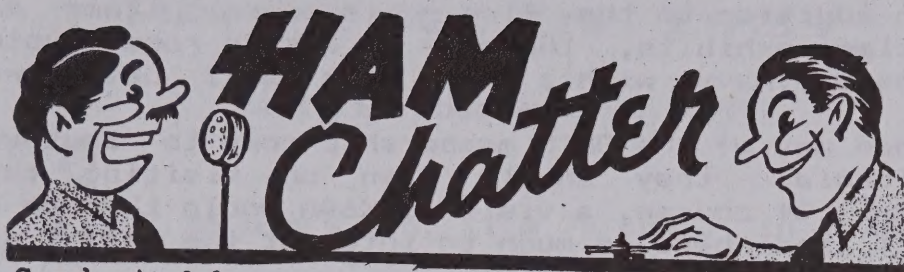
KNOWN BIRTHDAYS

For the Month of June

- 1 - VK3LC, W3PN
- 2 - W4ACY, W8QEQ, W9QBJ
- 3 - W5IZL
- 4 - W8CC, K7EK
- 5 - KA5DYS
- 6 - W9CFO, W3MJO, G5GH, N4JCS
- 8 - K5EAP
- 9 - W3BYI, W6DM, W8NF
- 10 - W9KPC
- 11 - K5MMP
- 12 - NG5R, K4FRO
- 13 - DL7BZ, W3ONE, W5LDH
- 14 - W1GAA
- 15 - W6BOX
- 16 - W7LUQ, W5GFM, W5NJ, W1RPM
- 17 - W5OB
- 18 - K4JQA
- 19 - KOMG, W7YKC
- 20 - N0DAA, W0QIK, W1CS
- 24 - W4MX
- 25 - W7HDT, WJ5E
- 26 - K2LCU, N5DXA, KB2YR, W0BX
W8BCH, K4TF
- 27 - W1BHA, W7EM, W5III, W1OKB
W6ON
- 28 - W5BET, AE6N
- 29 - W1BHD, KA6HOQ, DL3MT
- 30 - VE7DNG, W2LAE, K2GCE, NS5M
W5VFB

For the Month of July

- 1 - W6UK, W4VBQ, DL6TL
- 2 - W1FQ, N4XV
- 3 - W3DX
- 4 - K43Q
- 5 - W9TAL, 10G
- 6 - W4QR, KA5LOX
- 7 - W5LKL, DK9LG, W7LH
- 8 - WA7YSO, W6LL, N6NWR
- 9 - W2WB, K4FW, W6WA
- 10 - W6JXD, W2DPD
- 11 - W4JUJ, W7IV, K6ZE, W5MQB
- 12 - W6AAQ
- 13 - DL6DV
- 14 - WA2DPJ, K9EAT, W6RA
- 15 - W4KGJ
- 16 - W8QKY, W1PEX
- 17 - K6MJD, DL1QP, W2EYY
- 18 - W1ACB
- 19 - W3HWZ
- 20 - K4JR
- 21 - DL3BE, HB9BJ
- 22 - W5JN, W6CK, W6CKU, W9IH
VE7XE, W5HKE, W0APB
- 23 - W4ELR, W3IUM, W1JJ, W9CLO
- 24 - W8PFO
- 25 - K4FVI, K4GEW, VE6PW, W2UWD
- 27 - W9FHU, W7DI, OZ7X, KH6IHY
WB4ZGR
- 28 - W2ZH, C6ADY, KD7PL, W6NGK
W2ABG, W0BWJ
- 30 - W3BQP, W1DGD, N4NF
- 31 - W2URP



Conducted by

WILLIAM R. MILLER, K2GCE,
217 Porterfield Place. Freeport, N.Y. 11520

AS YOU can plainly see, we have changed the "name" of this column from the old, "Pipeline," to "Ham Chatter," which we believe will more exactly reflect what's in the column. Other than that, nothing is different... still a compendium of what's new with our members and hams, when you guys so kindly send the info in to me.

I want to thank all those who contributed to last month's column. It is good to have all that copy, for that's what this column is all about. Again, many thanks and keep the items coming.

Every once in a while, someone will send in a Net Sked and ask that it be printed in this column, or elsewhere in SGT. It is always our pleasure to oblige. However, in the future, would you be please be kind enough that when you mention net meeting time(s), that you show it in either GMT, Z or UTC, instead of local time. That would make it a lot easier for anyone checking into the Net from outside the area. So, in the future, we will convert the Net time(s) into the above and show the local time in parentheses.

The old ferry terminal at San Pedro, Calif. has been turned into a museum containing ship models, memorabilia and artifacts relating to the history of the Port of San Pedro. Of interest to OOTC hams, on the upper deck is a glassed-in room which houses an amateur radio exhibit with the call letters, K6AA.

Much of the effort and organization to include K6AA aboard this fascinating museum, is due to Otto Dedrick, who should shortly be active on many ham bands, to spread the word about this great historical attraction.

In addition to the fine, historical items and maritime exhibits, there is an antire room devoted to the U.S.Navy, with a model of a WWII destroyer, etc.

When any of the OOTC membership come to Southern California, they should plan on visiting this museum. Of course, a visit to K6AA would then be in order; and there is much to interest the ladies and children also.

Thanks to Ken Johnson, W6NKE,

We wish to thank all those members who were kind enough to respond to our request for information on the BJK beam, which we mentioned in the Jan/Feb SGT.

Carl, W8CU, sent us a very nice article covering his years as a ham. It was so good that we sent on to the Editor, whose name is also Karl only spelled with a "K" instead of a "C," in the hopes that it might be good for SGT. (It will be published, soon. Ed.)

We regret also to report that Carl, W8CU, had to retire in 1977 to take care of his ailing wife. Unfortunately, she passed away this last summer. Our condolences, Carl.

Congratulations to Bill Halligan, W9AC, who recently celebrated his 90th birthday. (*I worked for him many, many years ago. Ed.*)

If you are in the habit of sending your QSLs directly to the DX stations, then you will be interested in a free pamphlet available from the Post Office. Ask for Publication No.51, "International Postal Rates and Fees." Give it a try; it might prove worth while.

From the "50 Years Ago" column in QST, in 1938 the total number of issued ham licenses was 50,000 for the first time. Those were the days when the Call Book was only 200 pages thick and included the foreign ham stations as well. Today, one needs a magnifying glass to read some of the calls, and that's only in the Domestic Call book, the names are so many.

Well, I guess that this will be all for this month as there was not much mail that could be used.

(Pse QSY to page 16)

HAMMING IN 1939

by

Paul S. Bedoian, Sr., W1HRJ

SOME 56 years ago, (I'm 76 now), in 1933, I breadboarded a transmitter using a '45 tube in an MOPA circuit, with 250V on the plate. You had to be a doctor or lawyer to own a Collins receiver. So I had a home-made receiver using a 30-type tube detector and a 30-type tube audio amplifier. I was using a Pilot 100MF condenser as the main tuning device; and I took another Pilot variable condenser apart and double-spaced the two stator plates and placed the single rotor plate between them. This was my "band-spread" condenser, and connected in parallel to the other Pilot condenser. It worked pretty well.

I had just purchased a pair of Trimm earphones for \$10, which in those days could be a whole week's pay. I had a short length of wire connected to the receiver. When I was receiving, I would clip this receiver antenna to the transmitting antenna, disconnecting it again, when I was transmitting.

I was tuned up on the 20-meter band, where most of the DX was on the high end. One morning around 5:30AM, I sent out a CQ and started to tune the receiver from the high frequency end down. I came across a signal that was QSA3, R3 and I listened intently for his call letters. He signed with VS7RF, which I knew was in Ceylon. I almost fell over backwards from my chair!

I was using a single wire-fed antenna at the time. We exchanged signal reports; and I still have his QSL card. I could hardly believe that I had contacted Ceylon, India, with the meager equipment I had.

Today, things are much better. I am using a Drake T4-XC transitter and a mono-band, Hy-Gain, 5 element beam up 110 feet.

----- 30 -----

A "NEWLY DISCOVERED" LAW...

MATTISON's: That pretty nurse who isn't wearing a wedding ring, and on whom you "hit" while waiting for the doctor, is his wife. And wait 'til you get his bill!!!

The Legend of

Long Wave Radio

by

Don K. deNeuf, SK-WA1SPM

THE WORKS of Morse and Marconi fill textbooks and encyclopaedias. But for some time, now, the use of Long Wave Radio is likely to fade from modern telecommunications. Or at the very best, in the minds of the younger generation, it might get about as much attention or mention as acetylene does in the history of lighting. In the past, this was not so.

"Long Wave" in wireless communications was a sort of bridge between the early "Spark" equipment and the development of the vacuum tube in radio transmissions. The generation of the continuous electromagnetic waves (CW) for communications came into existence with the Vlademar Poulsen invention, circa 1903, of the oscillating arc transmitter. As it was developed, this transmitter consisted of a DC arc burning in an atmosphere of hydrogen, later alcohol, and subjected to an intense magnetic field, which drove the arc flames away from the carbon electrodes. The arc was connected across a coil-and-capacitor circuit which kept it in continuous oscillation. The resultant currents were then fed into the antenna via a tuning circuit.

The Navy Long Haul Developments

The Navy following WWI, began intensively to develop its long haul radiotelegraph circuits in the spectrum of 18 to 23kHz (13,000 to 17,000 meters), with equipment manufactured by the Federal Telegraph Company, which had secured the rights from Poulsen. In 1908, for experimental purposes, the Navy purchased two arc transmitters directly from Poulsen in Denmark.

By 1916, the Navy was operating its transmitters located in Arlington, San Diego and Pearl Harbor with powers of the order of 300kW. But the largest arc transmitter ever constructed, was that of station PKX, Java, Dutch East Indies. Built in 1922 by the Dutch genius, de Groot, it operated on 15,600 meters, with 3 megawatts of power feeding into an antenna strung between two mountain tops. It was to

Telling the history of Long Wave Radio,
which seems to be fading from the scene

communicate with Holland, 7500 miles distant. Today, the Navy is operating a similar antenna, also strung between two mountain tops for a frequency in the 15kHz range.

Although the arc transmitter was a vast improvement over its spark counterpart, it created a sizeable amount of interfering harmonics. Additionally, since the arc had to be kept burning continuously, telegraphic keying into the "mark" and "space" was carried out using two separate frequencies by shunting out a section of the antenna tuning circuit. Receiving operators, of course, listened only to the "mark" (key down) wave. The system was probably the world's first frequency shift keying (FSK) operation.

Further Developments in Long Wave Radio

Close on the heels of the arc developments, was the high frequency alternator. As early as 1906, Dr. Flemming had said, "Designs for a high frequency alternator were begun in 1890, when arc lighting by AC was being considered." It is a matter of record, that both Thompson and Tesla in 1880, and Steinmetz in 1907, built 5kHz alternators.

But in 1906, Dr. Alexanderson of General Electric built a 1kW alternator operating on low frequency (50Khz) for radio telegraphy. And it was Reginald Fessenden, in 1907, who used that alternator in the world's first, voice and music broadcast from his Brant Rock, Mass. station. The broadcast was heard as far away as Norfolk, Va. Fessenden employed an incredible, water-cooled, carbon microphone capable of handling 15A of RF to modulate the antenna current! *(Some of the very first, ham 'phone transmitters used the same idea, only the mikes were simple carbon ones. Ed.)*

By 1918, Alexanderson's rotating alternators produced 200kW; and were put into use by the Navy for world-wide radiotelegraph communications. During 1923, the Marconi Company tried to buy exclusive world rights to the Alexanderson



The Jan/Feb issue of SGT contained an article, "WTJ to JNP" by Jack N. Brown, W3SHY. That "WTJ" caught my eye, because I was assigned to WTJ back in 1944, and it is at Hickam AFB, TH.

The article placed WTJ at the HQ of Gen. MacArthur in Manila. That really made me sit up, because it didn't read right to me.

I wrote to Jack, asking him to confirm the QTH. Jack shot back a nice, long letter in which he acknowledged his error. The call he meant to write was, WTA, he said.

In the interest of accuracy, I felt that SGT would want the correction reported to it and the members.

Julius J. Altman, W2DX,
Deer Park, N.Y.

I am writing to ask if any of the OOTC members can help with a project concerning HF radio communications during WW II. In brief, can any of you provide information on ionosphere disturbances which occurred in the period 1939 through 1945, and how they affected long-haul communications on HF radio.

The reason for the request is as follows. Prof. C. Stewart Gillmore, W1FK, Wesleyan Univ., in Conn. and I are exploring the above and seek your assistance. My call is NM7M. We are especially interested in the association of geophysical observations made from ground observatories concerning radio operations during WW II, particularly regarding the long haul paths which relied on the F-Layer.

If any member has any recollections, remarks or comments that would help us, or can point to other

sources of information, either personal or institutional, won't you please send them to me. Both WIFK and I would be most appreciative.

Prof. Robt. E. Brown, NM7M,
504 Channel View Drive,
Anacortes, VA 95221.

I enjoy SGT so much. Roy Meyers and I had been friends for over 60 years until he became a Silent Key. Roy, during the time I was Supt. of Communications for Hearst Radio, KUP, the S.F. Examiner press station, went or attempted to go to the North Pole in an old R-Tub submarine with Sir Hubert Wilkins, on whose expedition he was radio operator.

During Wilkins' activities in the Artic, we handled a good deal of his press dispatches. Then, when he went to Antarctica, we handled all of his press communications. And at the same time, during the first expedition of Admiral Byrd to Little America, KUP handled 1,500,000 words of traffic from WFA down there.

Today, KUP is a legend and in the Perham Museum at Foothill College, Palo Alto, Cal. I am sorry to say, though the Museum also has all of Dr. Lee DeForest's artifacts, it is a mess. The old KUP transmitter can't even be found, today.

I think that too much political jealousy exists; and if someone doesn't step in and take over, the Museum will become a terrible loss. I have threatened to put the matter into my attorney's hands, because this loss of history is shameful. It exemplifies what happens when people, too young to realize the great importance of what is at the Museum, are left to pillage for their own gain. I have temptation in my heart to cite the college for their disregard for the historical treasures they have there.

Meanwhile, Mr. Editor, keep up the good work. SGT is valuable to us all.

Col. Ronald E. Martin, W6ZF,
Napa, Cal.

THAT'S SOMETHING I DIDN'T KNOW...

That Michael Faradady, who discovered that magnetism produces electricity, was a consummate chemist who discovered Benzol used even today in the manufacture of aniline dies.

HOW WELL DO YOU REMEMBER?...

Can you think of a better band than that of Ben Pollack which featured among others: Eddie Miller on tenor sax, Ray Baduc on skins; Bob Zurke on the 88, Bobbie Haggard on the dog house, Nappy Lamar on the git fiddle, Fuzzy Fazola on the licorice stick and Billy Butterfield on the horn? The band was later lead by none other than Bob Crosby and featured a band within a band, to become known as the famous Bob Cats.

How many of you remember the Happiness Boys, Ben Bernie and All the Lads, Rudy Valle and His Connecticut Yankees, Paul Whiteman and His Rhythm Boys among whom were two then unknowns: Bing Crosby and Harry Babbit?

How many recall when a hamburger was 5c, a phone call the same; and an ice cream soda was 12 oz made with real cream and 2 scoops of ice cream topped with whipped cream and walnuts, all for a dime? And whatever happened to penny candy?

How about when Fanny was a girl's name; when you could buy a nickel cigar, and your Dad smoked Caporals at 10c for a pack of 20?

Remember when Luckies sold at 12 for 10c; there was free lunch with your beer; whiskey was 25c for a shot of the bonded stuff, with 15c for the blended?

How about when the telephone operator was called, "Central;" when Radio was called, "Wireless;" when there was no censorship of the movies, and the biggest names in the cinema were Theda Bara, Barbara LaMar, Ailene Pringle, Billie Dove, Pearl White, William S. Hart and Hoot Gibson, etc.?

Courtesy "Chime" circa 1968.

HAM CHATTER

(QSY'd from page 10)

Please, fellows, if you have anything that would be of interest to the members, send it along. If it belongs in here, we'll be glad to include it. If it belongs elsewhere in SGT, we'll always forward it to the Editor. Either way the members win!

I'd like to close with this thought. It is said that George Washington never told a lie. But he also never had to fill out an IRS tax return or play golf!

Until next time, 73...

Bill.

Late NET & Other News

Notice to ex-Air Force Communicators

The AACS Alumni Pacific Net meets every Monday, Wednesday & Friday on 7232kHz, at 1000PST (1800UTC) on LSB.

The National AACS Alumni Net meets on 14,287kHz, at 1400PST (2200 UTC) same days.

There are over 350 AACS Alumni members in the AACS Alumni Ass'n. Reunions are held every year somewhere in the U.S. The Air Force Communications Command HQ at Scott AFB, Ill., has announced that Nov.15th will be officially known as "AACS DAY" worldwide, for the legacy we gave to the formation of the Air Force's major Communications Command, 25 years ago.

Col. Ronald G. Martin, W6ZF,
Napa, Cal.

Please list the Florida OOTC-QCWA Net which meets each Saturday on 3955 kHz at 1300 UTC (8:00AM EST). Net control alternates between W4NWF and K2SN.

Bob Bookwalter, W4NWF.
Venice, FL.

KNOWN FREQS AND TIMES WHEN ONE MAY FIND OOTC MEMBER

DAY	LOCAL/T	UT	FREQ	TYPE	CONTROL
Mon	1900	0300	3555	W. Canada SOWP	VE7WE/VE7RQ
Mon	1900	0300	3530	OOTC	W3FYD
TUES	1400	1000	7075	OOTC Germany	DL1NP
TUES	1700	1600	14280	OOTC Europa Ch	DL7PH
Wed	1330	1830	7035	QCWA	W4PI
Thur	1900	2400	3840	Midwest OOTC	W9CV
Fri	1100	1600	14115	Nat'l OOTC CW	W1HRQ/W8CCN
Sat	0930	1430	7040	OOTC E.C./SOWP	W1HRQ/W8CCN
Sun	0930	1430	3917	SoCal OOTC	W6FQ
Sun	1330	1830	7230	SSB OOTC/SOWP	W1HRQ/W8CCN

A Newly Discovered 'Law' for the Hams!

KENICHI's: Returning your favorite, made in Japan, transceiver to an authorized repair depot, always costs about ten times more than you figured; and it takes from 4 to 6 months to get it back, not the 3 weeks promised.

Off the Editor's Desk (QSY'd from page 5)

acquaintance with you. Mike's address is okay in any call book for the last 10 years. Thanks.

The infighting about the Repeater Coordinators goes on unrelentingly. The League is embroiled with SERA, which is saying that unless the League recognizes some certain coordinators, it won't let the League copy the SERA list of repeaters into the next League Repeater Directory. And to prove it, SERA has copyrighted its list.

It is unclear why the confrontation. But it seems to us that it's a case of "If I can't be King, you can't slide down my cellar door!" which is childish. No wonder the FCC wants no part of it!

Keep up this type of nonsense, and sure as the good Lord made little apples, the FCC will unexpectedly step in with some Rule that will diminish our use of the radio spectrum. For this infighting among ourselves, gives ample credence to the idea that hams are like irresponsible children; and that some of the spectrum "hobby" space they have, should be more severely limited in favor of serious, non-hobby, spectrum users, like the police, gov't. agencies, the military, etc.

It's like a breath of fresh air! We are pleased to quote our good friend Fried Heyn, WA6WZO, Southwestern Div., ARRL Director, directly. Fried recently told us that, "Some (League) Directors are involved in a continuing progress to find ways to be more responsive to the membership."

The League apparently is gradually becoming sensitive to the wishes, needs, suggestions and ideas of its membership. This is in sharp contrast to years upon years of the League performing as its Directors decided, the underlying axiom being that the "Director knows best what is good for the membership," regardless of what the membership thinks or wants!

We congratulate those ARRL Directors who see that the future of the League lies in it being "What Its Membership Wants It To Be," and not what the Directors want it to be, possibly even in contravention to the membership wishes.

— 30 —

YOU KNOW IT'S GOING TO BE A ROTTEN DAY WHEN --

Your IRS Tax Return check bounces.

alternator, but President Wilson intervened to keep the invention in American hands.

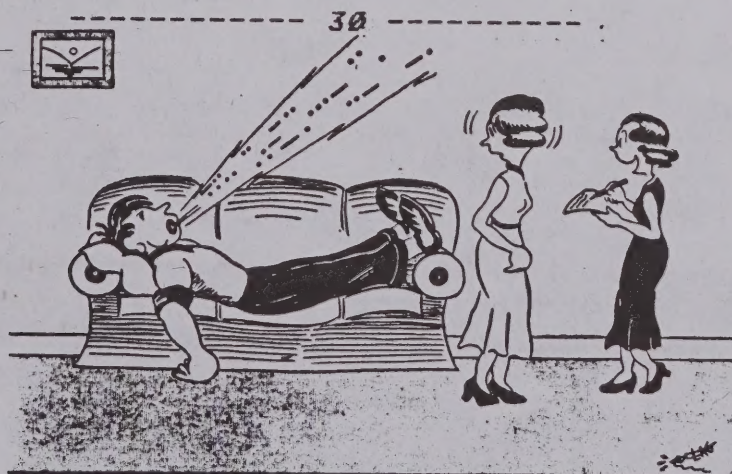
Arc Transmitters Begin Phasing Out

Arcs began phasing out, as alternators took their places in commercial services by the 1920s. Then huge vacuum tube arrays began to replace the alternators. And while the high powered, long wave characteristics normally provided very reliable communications despite the adverse propagation conditions, it was atmospheric static interference that was the "enemy" contributing to low telegraphic speed compared with to the "short wave" facilities which were being developed.

Short wave deficiencies, such as fading were largely being overcome with the development of diversity reception techniques and frequency shift keying by WW II, and provided high speed telegraphic and telephoto operations leading eventually, to full scale teleprinter circuits.

A few long wave stations are still active for military communications, notably the one operating nearby to 15kHz, mentioned above. Incidentally, for years, transmission on the long wave frequencies was the sole means of penetrating sea water, and the only type of radio signals submerged submarines could intercept. That has, of course, with the advent of the high frequency usage, changed.

(The author wishes to thank W5TOS and W6AX for their assistance in the preparation of this article.)



I HAD to learn the code, since Joseph has taken to talking that way in his sleep!

Courtesy, RADIO NEWS, circa 1939

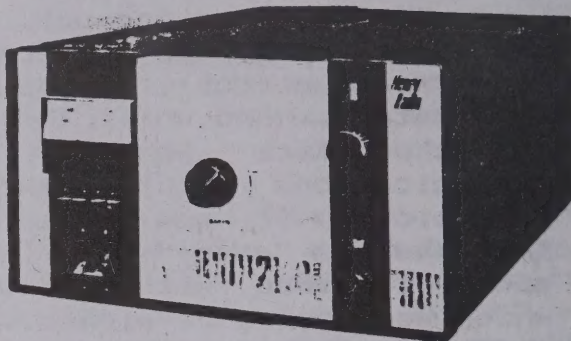
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2KD Standard 3KD Classic 3KD Premier 2KD Classic

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2KD STANDARD. . . new to the Henry line

Smaller than the 2KD Classic and with a slightly lower power output, but still the same rugged construction, the same superior components, the same dependability. The 2KD Standard is a 1200 W PEP nominal output SSB, CW, 750 W RTTY, pulse RF linear covering the 3.5 to 30.0 MHz frequency range. It uses a Pi-L plate circuit with a rotary silver plated tank coil for maximum efficiency and attenuation of unwanted harmonics. Its tube complement consists of one Eimac 3-500Z glass envelope triode in a grounded grid circuit.

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